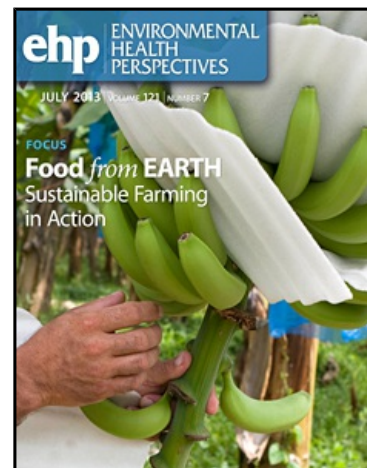


This month in EHP

This month, [Environmental Health Perspectives \(EHP\)](http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/) (<http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/>)

celebrates growth in its impact factor, and highlights feature stories on sustainable farming, and the risks and rewards of nanosilver.



Food from EARTH: Sustainable Farming in Action

With its row upon row of genetically identical Cavendish banana plants stretching for acres, one might mistake EARTH University's finca bananera for a traditional banana farm. But through trial, error, and scientific research, EARTH University, funded largely by a U.S. Agency for International Development endowment, has not only created a more ecologically friendly, lower pesticide banana since the Costa Rican university was established in 1989, but also impacted the larger banana industry and nations around the world, as their alumni take sustainable agriculture initiatives and new business opportunities back to their home countries.

Nanosilver: Weighing the Risks and Rewards

The use of silver as an antimicrobial is nothing new, but recent advances in our ability to manipulate nanosilver particles, plus evidence that silver can fight antibiotic-resistant bacteria, have led to a surge of new innovations. But consensus remains elusive on subjects as essential as how nanosilver behaves in the body, how the influx of silver affects the environment, and the extent to which its use is apt to breed strains of resistant microbes.

Featured research and related news articles this month include:

- **Roxarsone, Inorganic Arsenic, and Other Arsenic Species in Chicken: A U.S.-Based Market Basket Sample** — Arsenical Association: Inorganic Arsenic May Accumulate in the Meat of Treated Chickens
- **Solid Fuel Use for Household Cooking: Country and Regional Estimates for 1980-2010** — Filling In the Blanks on Solid Fuel Use: New Model Illustrates Trends, Highlights Needs
- **Improving the Human Hazard Characterization of Chemicals: A Tox21 Update** — Tox21 to Date: Steps Toward Modernizing Human Hazard Characterization
- **Second-Hand Tobacco Smoke Exposure in Open and Semi-Open Settings: A Systematic Review** — Outdoor Smoking Areas: Does the Science Support a Ban?

Impact factor grows

The latest impact factor for EHP is 7.26, up from last year's figure of 7.04. Calculated independently each year by Thomson-Reuters, impact factor is a measure of the frequency with which the average article published in a given scholarly journal has been cited in a particular year or period, and is often used to measure or describe the importance of a particular journal to its field. The new rankings come out in the spring, for the previous year's journals. Three years' worth of data is required to calculate a journal impact factor.

7.26
IMPACT
FACTOR

According to the 2012 Journal Citation Reports, EHP ranked third out of 205 journals in environmental sciences, and ranked second out of 157 journals in public, environmental, and occupational health.

The Environmental Factor is produced monthly by the [National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences \(NIEHS\)](http://www.niehs.nih.gov/) (<http://www.niehs.nih.gov/>)

, Office of Communications and Public Liaison. The content is not copyrighted, and it can be reprinted without permission. If you use parts of Environmental Factor in your publication, we ask that you provide us with a copy for our records. We welcome your [comments and suggestions](#). (bruskec@niehs.nih.gov)

This page URL: NIEHS website: <http://www.niehs.nih.gov/>
Email the Web Manager at webmanager@niehs.nih.gov